ii)	M/s. Pamba Rubber	:	255 met. tonnes
(iii)	M/s. Periyar Rubber	:	78 met. tonnes
(iv)	M/s. Pazhassi Rubber	:	53 met. tonnes
			8684 met. tonnes

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The rubber supplied by the Kerala State Cooperative Rubber Marketing Federation (KSCRMF) has been found to be of poor quality by the consuming industry. STC has lodged claims with the KSCRMF in the matter. The dispute has not been settled so far.

(e) During the last ten months, STC has released 7000 metric tonnes of natural rubber.

(f) Government has already directed the State Trading Corporation of India to purchase RMA-4 and RMA-5 grades of natural rubber from the domestic market. STC will continue its purchase operations till the 7-days moving average prices of these grades reach the desired level.

Purchase of Rubber by STC

1559. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently directed State Trading Corporation to purchase RMA V Grade rubber;

(b) if so, the quantity of rubber purchased by STC and kept in the buffer stock;

(c) whether the Government purpose to direct STC to purchase more quantity of RMA V Grade and also ungraded rubber; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government have directed the State Trading Corporation of India in the first week of October, 1991 to purchase RMA-5 grade of natural rubber from the domestic market. The STC has so far purchased about 984 met. tonnes of RMA-5 grade of natural rubber from the domestic market and kept in the stock maintained by them.

(c) and (d). The directions already given to the STC for purchase of RMA-5 grade of rubber does not indicate any limit with regard to quantity to be purchased. Subject to the quality specifications, STC will continue to purchase RMA-5 grade of rubber from the domestic market till the seven days moving average price of RMA-5 grade reaches the desired level. No instructions have been issued to STC to purchase upgraded rubber.

Stock Formula of Rubber

1560. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing stock formula of rubber;

(b) whether the Government have changed or propose to change the above formula;